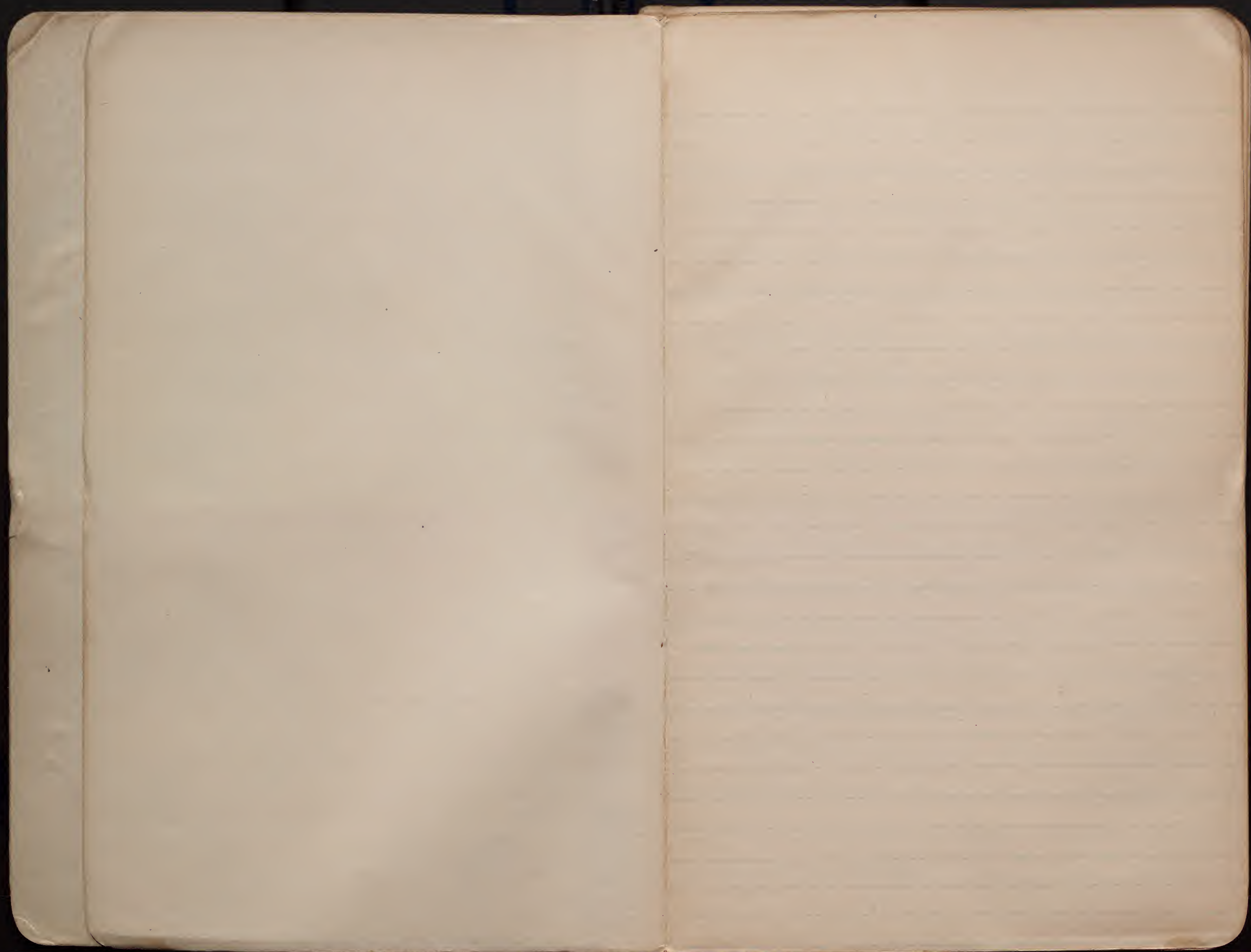


Journal

1891

Vernon Bailey.

#8363- *fil*





1891.

Auburn, Cal.

Oct. 23 Caught 2 *Sorex* and one long
tailed *Hesperomys*. Reset the traps for *Hesperomys*
boylii. Found a *Dipodops* track in road but
could not find where it came from or went
to.

Oct. 24 Caught 6 *Hesperomys* along south
side of Middle Fork American River just above
the junction but do not think it is the
one wanted - *H. boylii*. Shot a cottontail and
a *Spermophile*. Walked 6 miles + took up
my traps and got back at 9:30. Made up
7 skins, packed my trunk and left Auburn
at 1 P.M. Came back to Rocklin,
22 miles from Sacramento and at 2 P.M.
was out hunting Jack Rabbits.
Killed 2 Jacks and tramped till dark
trying to find places where *Dipodomys*
lives. Found some holes of probably
Neotoma & set 20 traps.

The altitude of Rocklin is 240 feet.
It is at the edge of the plains of the Sacramento
Valley. The country is gently rolling.
A mile to the west the treeless plains stretch away.
All around Rocklin & to the east is scattered
timber, *Pinus sabiniana* & *Quercus douglasii*
and a few *Q. wislizenia*. The soil is mostly clay
& is bare. Grass covers part of the country.
Granite crops out & is extensively quarried at Rocklin.

Oct. 25 Caught only 2 *Mus musculus* at Rocklin, took up traps and started for Colfax at 1 P.M. Rocklin is 2600 feet, and Colfax 2422 feet.

The soil is hard and baked, mostly a red clay all the way to Colfax.

The rocks are broken lava on the surface south of Rocklin. At Rocklin a hard, fine grained, light colored granite that is extensively quarried. In the R.R. cuts N.E. of Rocklin the rock is a soft, coarse, granite. Near Auburn it is of various kinds of rock, schists, quartz, & coarse granite and continues so to Colfax. Hilly all the way but very much cut up near American River.

Plants, *Rhamnus californicus* is among the rocks at Rocklin, Laurel and the small leaved *Ceanothus* begin west of Penryn and are com. to Colfax. *Quercus douglasii* is the principal tree at Rocklin, there are a few *Quercus wislizenia*. *Pinus sabiniana* begins at Rocklin and extends to Colfax. *P. p. benthamiana* begins west of Auburn and becomes the principal Pine at Colfax.

Quercus ~~begin~~ *wislizenia* is common to Auburn but not at Colfax. *Quercus chrysolepis* begins near Auburn and is common at Colfax.

The big leaved Black Oak, possibly *Q. kelloggii*, begins at Newcastle and is abundant to Colfax.

The oak with leaves like lobata but smaller & a small tree begins between Newcastle & Auburn but does not extend to Colfax. Another small almost shrubby & apparently deciduous leaved, Oak is found at Colfax, has lobed leaves.

Aesculus californicus begins at Penryn & is com. to Colfax. *Arctostaphylos p. platyphlla* begins between Auburn and Newcastle and is abn. to Colfax. *Pseudotsuga douglasii* begins at Auburn & is at Colfax. *Camelotia foliolosa* begins at Auburn is com. at Colfax.

Pinus lambertiara begins at Newengland Mills & is common at Colfax.

Oct. 24, The stage does not leave Colfax for Michigan Bluff till 3 P.M. so I have time to hunt. Tramped over the hills all of forenoon, talked with several men about Chipmunks but there do not seem to be any around here.

Killed a *Sciurus fasson*. *Spermophilus beecheyi* is common, also *Thomomys*.

The country is hilly, brushy, and Pine and oak timber scattered over the hills.

Left Colfax at 3:30 P.M. and Reached Michigan Bluff at 9 P.M. - 23 miles.

The first part of the road for about 8 miles is steadily down hill to the North Fork of American River. Then it is all up hill for about 8 miles to Forest Hill.

It got dark a little before we reached Forest Hill. To Michigan Bluff (7 miles) it was dark but pretty good road and not much up grade.

Oct. 27. Started out in morning to find *Tamias quadrimaculatus*. The people all say that Chipmunks are common. Tramped all of forenoon & saw one *Tamias* but did not get it. Shot a *Sciurus fessor* & a Pine Squirrel. Skinned these and in P. M. started out on another trail but saw no Chipmunks. Saw none of both kinds of *Sciurus*. Set some traps.

Guess I will get a horse and go up to Sugar Pine Hill tomorrow. Said to be Chipmunks up there and Flying Squirrels.

Pinus lawbertiana and *P. ponderosa* and *Libocedrus decurrens* are large trees here and have been cut a good deal for lumber. I should think Michigan Bluff was 8000 or 10000 feet higher than Colfax.

Besides the plants of Colfax there is a tridentate leaved, prostrate *Clanosthus* and a small, prickly leaved oak, 4 to 6 feet high.

Quercus douglasii & the lobate leaved oak are wanting here. *Q. chrysolifus* & the large leaved oak are common. Red soil still predominates.

The country is long, high ridges and deep ravines. Middle Fork of Owens R. passes just south of town but down in a deep cañon.

Oct. 28 Got a saddle horse and went up the ridge 7 miles to a ranch called Main Top. It is up hill most of the way and I should think was 500 feet above Michigan Bluff. It was windy and cloudy & cool in morning and thickened up and began to sprinkle about noon. I found Chipmunks common near Main Top and killed 5, then it began to rain steadily, about 1 P.M. and I started for home. It rained hard all the rest of day and part of night was cold and windy. I got soaked through and very cold. The red clay became so slippery my horse could hardly stand and streams of water ran down the roads. It is so cold and so muddy and nasty I could hardly get any more Chipmunks for a day or two, so concluded to leave in the morning. Skinned the things in evening and got ready for an early start in morning.

Oct. 29 Took the stage at 5:30 A.M. and reached Colfax at noon. Packed my things and wrote up a few notes while waiting for train. At 1:30 P.M. left Colfax. I followed up N. Fork American River, wound around a thousand cañons & gulches, a steady up grade to Summit.

It got dark as we reached Blue Cañon.
From there to Truckee did not see the
country. Stopped at Truckee to try for
Tamias chrysolaemus,

Oct. 30, On getting out in morning I found
the ground frozen hard, a thick white frost,
and snow on the ridge above town.
There is not a possibility of finding *Tamias*
in such weather, so I took the next train
(8 A.M.) for Halluck, Nev.
Took what notes I could on plants from
the train.

Pinus ponderosa (var.) is com. at Truckee
and down to Verdi. *Pinus flexilis* (apparently) is
common above and down to Truckee but
not much below - *Abies*?, some kind of
a spruce or fir is common above Truckee
but only below in a canyon. *Artemisia trident-*
ata is abundant at Truckee and down to
a little above edge of Humboldt Sink.
Populus tremuloides begins along creek just
below Truckee and goes down to Reno or lower.
Juniperus was only seen on rocks below
Boca. *Thuja occidentalis* (probably), a few scattered
along with junipers. *Cercocarpus ledifolius*
was abundant along sides of rocky cañon from
Boca down a little way. *Ephedra viridis*
begins at Verdi and continues down to about Salvia

where it gives way to *Ephedra nevadensis*.
Bigelovias and *Tetradymias* were common from
Riv. Indee down but I could not tell the species.

Arctostaphylos nevadensis is common at Truckee
& below but did not notice lower. At Verdi we left
Pine timber and entered valley & hills covered
with *Artemisia*. Saw no ~~not~~ *Pinus monophylla*.

At Reno the valley is broader and there is lots
of grass and alkali. A little below we
strike *Atriplex confertifolia*, *Sarcobatus*
vermiculatus, Salt grass, and *Shepherdia*
argentea. Near Vista *Atriplex canescens*,
Eurotia lanata, *Grayia polygaloides*,
Orographis, *Ephedra nevadensis*, and
(*Salicaria*?) begin. After passing

Wadsworth there is a big dry valley with
scanty vegetation, sandy soil, and lots
of alkali and a soda flat in low part.
Low lava mts. all around. To lake shores
to be seen up the side of the hills to some
500 feet above bottom of valley. No water in it.
Cross a divide and down to sink of the
Humboldt and lake. It is a great soda
valley. Vegetation mostly *Sarcobatus* &
Suaeda & *Spharostachys* & *Distichlis*.
A lot of our new *Sarcobatus* on dry
side of valley just before we strike the sink.
It is common along R.R. & unmistakable.

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From Humboldt Sink we follow up the
Sagebrush valley of The East Humboldt
which is about the same as at Battle
Mountain. Got dark as we reached
Battle Mountain, but I have seen
most of the country from there to
Hall's. Reached Hall's at 9:30 P.M.
Came on the "Flyer" It went at the rate of $24\frac{1}{2}$
miles per hour including stops. Probably 30 miles
per hour while running. It seemed to crawl.
The fare at local rates is 5¢ per mile. From
Truckee to Hall's - 372 miles - \$18.60

Oct. 31 Set all of my small traps - 64 - for
Microdipodops. Made up the soft skins
that I brought from Michigan Bluff.
Cold morning - $+20^{\circ}$, warm enough at noon
looks like rain.

Nov. 1 Caught 2 *Onychomys*, 3 *Tamias*
pietus, and 20 *Hesperomys sonoriensis*. 2 of the
Tamias and 5 *Hesperomys* were eaten in the traps
by *Onychomys* and *Hesperomys*.

A cold morning, cloudy and threatens rain.

Nov. 2 Caught 4 *Onychomys* & a lot of *Tamias* &
Hesperomys. Shot a *Perognathus olivaceus*
Took up most of my traps & reset them where
I found some *Microdipodops* tracks.
Coyotes & magpies have taken 5 of my traps.

Nov. 3 Caught 2 *Microdipodops* and 5 *Onychomys* & 1 *Hesperomys*. Have got my traps out of the way of *Hesperomys* & begin to catch something else. Found quite a lot of *Microdipodops* tracks & set my traps with much care. Hope to get more tonight.

A warm day.

Nov. 4 Did not catch a thing except one chipmunk. Will try one more night & then leave. Could do nothing of account, tramped over a lot of country but found nothing. Packed a box of specimens. Killed a big Sage Grouse. They are common - Warm & summer like.

Nov. 5 Caught nothing but a few *Hesperomys*. Took up traps and at 9 AM started for Kelton. Found *Pinus monophylla* or *edulis* among the cedars. At Cedar - the first station east of Wells. This is farther north than I have known of it before. *Artemisia tridentata* and *arbuscula* are both common east of Wells. Crossed a lot of valleys that reach south between low ranges of mountains. Junipers cover most of the Mts. and down along the R.R. in places. Reached Kelton at 3:30 P.M. Set out 22 traps on the flat valley just north of town. Cloudy & looks like storming.

Nov. 6 Caught an *Onychomys* & a lot of *Hesperomys*. Took up traps and went across the flat & up among hills and cedars to my old place 8 miles north of Kilton. Tramped all day. Killed 3 *Tamias pictus* and saw 2 more. Set my traps for *Tamias* & *Perognathus*. Think I found holes of *Perognathus*. Made up skins in evening. Got a Badger skull. Saw Jack Rabbits & a Cottontail.

Found a small, very thick & strong shell in a dry, clay wash. It is new to me.

Rained a little in the night. The dust is packed & atmosphere cleared. A pleasant day. Tramped from before 7 to dark, about 20 miles I guess.

Nov. 7 Clear & cold at daylight, soon clouded up & snowed & blew & has been cold & disagreeable all day. Got a *Tamias* & 4 *Dipodops* & a *Neotoma mexicana* & lots of *Hesperomys* in my traps. Could not find a chipmunk and wast froze hunting for them. Set all of my traps for *Perognathus* and will leave tomorrow.

Catching this *Neotoma* extends their range north as far as *Pinus edulis* goes. *Dipodops* goes north with *Junipers* to Lost River Mts.

Am boarding with the section boss, Mr. Vicks of Clinton, N.Y., nephew of Mr. Peters.

Nov. 8. Caught a lot of *Hesperomys*
& *Onychomys* & one *Perognathus fasciatus*.
3 traps were gone, probably carried off
by Coyotes. 2 Coyotes followed me
along the road & around my traps, kept
about 15 or 20 rods away. Did not
have my gun along.

Started for Ogden at 3:30 P.M.

Nov. 9 Had to wait till morning for train to
Salt Lake. Got into Salt Lake before
daylight. Went to telegraph office &
got a message. The weather is warmer
now but cloudy & threatens storm -
probably is snowing in the Mts.

Concluded to give up the work at Provo
& Nephi & go east.

Got my trunk to Lot 1, packed & sent
specimens & packed my trunk for the
trip. Left Salt Lake at 10 P.M.
on the D. & R. G. R. R.

A car got off the track & we laid
6 hours near Bingham Junction.

Nov. 10 Began to get daylight at Mill Fork,
were following up a creek in a deep gulch
between high hills. Junipers begin at Mill
Creek and continue up to Clear Creek, where
they mostly stop. *Artemisia tridentata* &
Tetradymia are common over the summit.

Soldier Summit is 7465 feet high. Some snow on the ground. big smooth hills covered with sagebrush and groves of *Populus tremuloides*, *Quercus*, & Spruce, (probably a *Picea*)

From Soldier Summit we follow down a creek through a gulch that grows denser to Castle Gate, below there it opens out & at Helper & Pries there is quite a wide valley with farms along bottom. *Pinus edulis* begins below Phasant Valley Junction & runs down below Castle Gate. *Juniper* ranges with it but extends lower and covers low hills down to Green River.

Pinus ponderosa scopulorum is scattering along the sides of cañon between Phasant Valley Junction & Castle Gate. *Picea* follows down the cañon to Castle Gate.

From Castle Gate to Green River and up the Grand River, at least to Debuque, is a dry *Atriplex* desert with typical Badlands along Green River. They ought to be full of fossils. *Atriplex confertifolia* & *cavescens*, *Eurotia lanata*, *Sarcobatus*, and *Opuntia* (vulgaris?) are characteristic plants.

This part of the country could be worked pretty thoroughly by stopping at Green River, Castle Gate & Soldier Summit.

Saw 1/2 Prairie Dogs just east of Pries,

A man that got on the train at Green River said Prairie Dogs were common all along in the valleys. Saw a Muskrat swimming in a pond close to R.R. between Grand Junction and DeBouque.

There is a group of high, isolated mountains about 20 miles (I guess) about S.S.W. of ^{Cisco} Green River Station. Seem to be in the fork of the Green & Grand Rivers. It is a small group of peaks like San Francisco Mts. Should think they were 11000 feet high, are covered with timber and the upper part with snow. Some patches of old heavy snow on N.E. slopes. The country about their base is low - probably 4100 feet is the highest land that connects them with other mountains, and this is desert. They ought to yield some good new species. Would have to be worked with a pack train. Could be got at from Cisco or Green River, Price or Sunnyvale are the nearest towns where one could outfit. They might be got at by boat down Grand River from Grand Junction. If so it would be the best plan.

We strike Grand River at Westwater which is just a station. Follow the river most of the way till dark. There is now and then a ranch along the bottoms, some cottonwoods, and on the hills junipers.

The river is low but would carry a good boat. Did not see any rapids in it.

High sandstone cliffs border the river valley part of the way. They are high & the river valley narrow along near Utah.

It was almost dark when we reached DeBugee but a good moon showed some of the country as far as Aspen at midnight.

Snowed in morning as we came up out of the Basin and over Soldier Summit. Warm & sunshiny through Green River Valley, began snowing again in evening as we climbed up the Colorado Mts. and snowed most all night. Snow a foot deep at Aspen.

Nov. 11 Got daylight while we were near Summit Park on the Colorado Midland R.R. Did not see much of the country between there and Aspen, could see enough to tell that we were among big mountains and in cañons, with thick timber and lots of snow. At Summit Park the country is just big, smooth swells, very smooth for mountains. There are groves of *Populus tremuloides*, *Pinus scopularum*, brush patches, and grassy slopes. Some farms, small streams, and meadows. Very little snow. Manitou is a big gulch full of nice little cottages. Cedar on the hills all around.

Colorado Springs is a good sized town on edge of plain at foot of mountains. There are outlying ridges covered with *Pinus scopulorum* east of it. The *scopulorum* is all very small, does not average much larger than *P. edulis*, but is not so scrubby. *Yucca angustifolia* & Oak brush & thickets of small Popples are common along the R.R. from Colorado Springs to Denver. It is among foot hills & on edge of plain. There is plenty of grass, small streams, some farms, & cornfields, small towns along. I always supposed Denver was in the Mts. but found it out on the plains.

Had to wait till 8 P.M. for train to Council Bluffs. Then struck out across plains on the C.R. & P. R.R. Lark.

Nov. 12 Were at Philippsburg, ^{Kansas,} at daylight. The plains are characterized along this route by grass, cornfields, tumbleweeds, old sod houses, rolling land, small streams. Only trees seen are *Fraxinus viridis* & Cottonwoods along streams. Where we cross the Republican River between Smiths Center and Seavaria I saw the first Hazle brush. After passing Beatrice we struck a small river and followed it quite a way. Here we struck the first Bur Oaks, Water Elms, Soft Maple, Butternut, Sumachs, and other Miss. Valley plants.

Reached Council Bluffs at 4 P.M. Went to Hotel and got out my traps. & hurried out to set some before dark. Went up a gulch N.E. of town & set 12 traps in woods, but not in good places. Then it was too dark to do more.

Nov. 13 Caught nothing but Hesperomys. Went over onto Mosquito Creek about 3 miles N.E. of town and set out all of my traps. Found some pretty good places, old logs & brush in thick woods on the Creek bottoms & up in gulches. Set most of them about 2 miles up the creek from the Grundale packing house, above the second R.R. crossing of the Creek. A pretty cold day, tried to snow in evening.

Nov. 14 Caught 3 Blarivas, one Syrraptomys & a lot of Hesperomys leucopus. Set a lot more traps around where I got the Syrraptomys. Found some runways. Saw a Muskrat & Cottontail. Walnuts, Hickory nut (small kind), bur oak, Jack oaks, Box Elder, Elm, Celtis, Horn, Hazel, Ironwood, Basswood, Prickly ash, Sumach, White ash, Willows, Populus tremuloides & grandidentata are common -

Nov. 15 Sunday - Rained hard in the night and rained most of forenoon - Windy & muddy & nasty, did not go to traps.

Nov. 16 Went to traps & got 4 *Sylvotomys* & 3 *Blarina* & found a dead *Sceloporus* - It froze hard & the snow was all beaten down & full of ice. Very cold & snowed some in morning. Could not get to traps. Took up traps & made up skins & started for home at 6 P.M. Found snow several inches deep at Sioux City & all the rest of way.

Nov. 17 Reached Minneapolis at 9:30 A.M. and Elk River at 1 P.M. Now consider myself off duty.

